NEWS

From the County of San Bernardino Josie Gonzales Fifth District

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JGFDS-PR-302 COUNTY AWARDED U.S. DOJ GRANT FOR REENTRY PROJECT FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT C.L. LOPEZ (909) 420-6429

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

US Department of Justice awards grant to San Bernardino County

SAN BERNARDINO – A grant award from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) was accepted by the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday for the planning and implementation of a reentry project. San Bernardino County is one of 15 recipients in the country, and one of four in California to be selected.

"I am so proud of the initiative these two departments have shown in applying for this very competitive grant. In this, our County has demonstrated we have the leadership and direction to collaborate on a level that truly benefits the public safety of our communities," said Supervisor Josie Gonzales.

The \$589,401 grant is derived from the Second Chance Act (2008) and will fund planning and implementation of the Bridging Reentry Integration by Driving Goal-oriented Effective Strategies (BRIDGES) project, coordinated by San Bernardino County Department of Public Health. The project's focus is to promote the safe and successful reintegration of recently incarcerated or detained individuals into the community through using evidenced-based practices that reduce the risk of recidivism.

"Our BRIDGES project is a collaborative effort to reduce recidivism in our neighborhoods. This is truly an incredible effort and really puts the County and our Reentry Collaborative on the map for our hard work and collaboration," said Director of Public Health, Trudy Raymundo.

San Bernardino County's Department of Public Health, with the assistance of Probation Department, will match the \$589,401 provided by DOJ, totaling to \$1,185,663 in project funds.

Participants in the program will be linked to needed services such as employment, housing, mental health/substance abuse treatment, and eligible medical care.

For more information on the BRIDGES project, contact San Bernardino County Department of Public Health at (800)782-4264